

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

Timothy M. Kaine
Governor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 11, 2007

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GOVERNOR KAINE ANNOUNCES FEDERAL DISASTER DESIGNATIONS FOR EIGHT VIRGINIA COUNTIES

~ Requests pending for 44 additional localities ~

RICHMOND – Governor Timothy M. Kaine announced today that the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture has designated Bedford, Bland, Brunswick, Caroline, King George, Lancaster, Loudoun, and Orange counties primary natural disaster areas due to reductions in farm production caused by drought and high temperatures that occurred from January 1, 2007, and continuing.

These disaster designations make farmers eligible for low-interest loans and any supplemental relief that may be provided by Congress.

Farmers in the independent cities of Bedford and Lynchburg as well as in these adjacent counties have received contiguous disaster status and also may be eligible for federal assistance:

Albemarle	Fauquier	Lunenburg	Rockbridge
Amherst	Franklin	Madison	Smyth
Botetourt	Giles	Mecklenburg	Spotsylvania
Campbell	Greene	Northumberland	Stafford
Caroline	Greensville	Nottoway	Tazewell
Clarke	Hanover	Pittsylvania	Westmoreland
Culpeper	King and Queen	Prince William	Wythe
Dinwiddie	King George	Pulaski	
Essex	King William	Richmond	
Fairfax	Louisa	Roanoke	

“Because of the USDA disaster designation, farmers in these Virginia localities are now eligible to apply for low-interest loans that can help provide much needed assistance,” said Governor Kaine. “We anticipate that the USDA will respond to the many additional requests in the weeks ahead.”

Disaster declarations make farm operators in both primary and contiguous areas eligible to be considered for low-interest emergency loans from the Farm Service Agency

(FSA) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, provided they meet certain eligibility requirements. FSA will consider each application on its own merits by taking into account the extent of the losses, security available, and repayment ability. Local FSA offices can provide affected farmers with additional information.

Requests for primary federal drought disaster designations are currently pending for these 44 counties:

Albemarle	Essex	Isle of Wight	Richmond
Alleghany	Fauquier	King and Queen	Roanoke
Amelia	Floyd	Louisa	Rockbridge
Appomattox	Franklin	Madison	Shenandoah
Augusta	Frederick	Mecklenburg	Southampton
Botetourt	Giles	Montgomery	Spotsylvania
Campbell	Greene	Northumberland	Stafford
Clarke	Greensville	Nottoway	Surry
Craig	Halifax	Page	Tazewell
Cumberland	Hanover	Pittsylvania	Warren
Dinwiddie	Henry	Rappahannock	Westmoreland

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